

ELA Syllabus for 8th grade Team B

Course: Eighth Grade Language Arts

Instructor: Mandy Roderick

Planning Period: 12:41-1:28 pm

Parents, please feel free to contact me during this time if your student is having problems or if you have any questions. If you would like to set up a scheduled conference, please let me know. School phone: 777-2022

Students, welcome to 8th grade English Language Arts! I am so excited to have you in my class this year. Let me take a moment to introduce myself. I have been teaching for over 20 years at the middle school level, specifically in ELA. I love teaching middle school! I have no doubt that this year will be fantastic. I am excited to get to know you and learn alongside you throughout the year!

Daily Classroom Supplies:

- Composition Notebook
- Textbook and/or novel being read at the time
- Pencil
- Colored pencils
- Chromebook (charged)

It is important that all supplies are brought to class. It is disruptive and difficult to complete assignments when students do not have needed supplies. Students will only have a limited number of hall passes to use to get supplies that are forgotten.

Textbooks: *Collections (HMH)*

Supplemental Materials: The textbook in this class is supplemented with novels and other materials from a variety of sources. Additionally, students will be using the Chromebook to enhance learning opportunities. All students are expected to abide by school and district rules and expectations in the use of the Chromebook both at school and at home.

Objectives of the Course: Students will work towards meeting school and state curricular standards for Language Arts. Throughout the year we will work on activities to improve the students' reading and writing skills; this includes work in grammar, mechanics, reading comprehension, and evaluating information. Students will be writing on a regular basis; however, not all assignments will be graded. Some work will be used as "practice" for final pieces of writing. Students will also read from a variety of genres: short stories, poetry, plays, and novels. In the spring semester, students will take local and state assessments.

Evaluation Process: Grades include daily assignments, participation in class activities, vocabulary assignments, pop quizzes, unit tests, and extended reading and writing projects. Assignments will be less than 50 points. Quizzes range from 50-75 points. Tests and projects will be approximately 100 points.

Extra Credit: There are some extra credit points built into tests and projects, but it will be the student's responsibility to do the work required to earn them. Extra credit is also given for unused hall passes. These are the **only** extra credit points available to the student. Additionally, if a student needs another copy of an assignment, he/she may exchange one of the hall passes for a second copy of that assignment.

Make-up work and Absences: If a student is absent, it is **his/her** responsibility to check with me about work they missed and make up the work in the allotted time. Please be sure to read the policy in the student agenda book on make-up work. This is the policy that will be followed. Therefore, if you have any questions, please ask now. In addition, students must realize that attendance is important, and there will be some points that cannot be made up, including pop quizzes and points for participation in class activities.

Homework and Assignments Policy: All homework and assignments are due when I call for them. I will follow the Homework Completion Program Guidelines regarding late assignment policies. I am a strong believer in students doing all work assigned. All assignments must be neat and legible or no credit will be given. (I reserve the right to make exceptions on late work in emergency situations, but these are few and far between.)

Additional help: If students need help outside of class, please let me know. I am available before school and after school (except during cross country season in the fall). If students have questions on an assignment, they should not wait until the assignment is due to ask for help.

Classroom rules: It is important that students realize that disruptive behavior will not be allowed. It is not fair when a disruptive student takes away learning opportunities from his/her classmates. Reminders about appropriate behavior are listed below. This is not an all-inclusive list:

- Be respectful of others and school/personal property
- Be prepared for every class
- No food or drinks are allowed in my classroom without prior permission
- Be on time to every class

I am looking forward to working with you this year!!

Parents, please read and sign...

I have read the course syllabus and understand what is expected of my child. For remembering to have a parent's signature, my child has earned his/her first 10 points for language arts. If I need a copy of this syllabus, I can find a link on Mrs. Roderick's teacher webpage and on Google Classroom.

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Student's Signature